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175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OXFORD, NORTH CAROLINA

1818-1993

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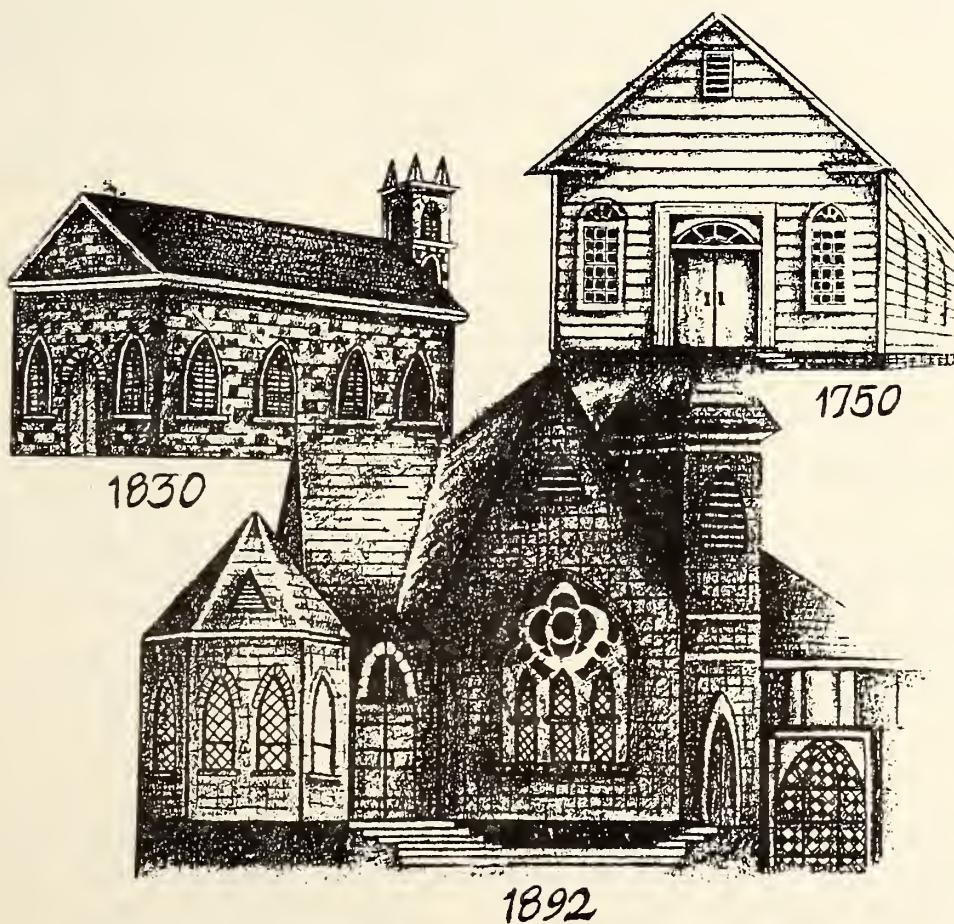


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175th Anniversary Celebration



Oxford Presbyterian Church
Oxford, North Carolina
1818 - 1993

175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Oxford Presbyterian Church
Oxford, North Carolina

Eleven O'Clock September 26, 1993

PRELUDE

"All' Elevazione and Pastorale"	Domenico Zipoli
"Jesu, meine Freude"	Johann Walther
"Lobe den Herren"	Arr. Wilson
"St. Anne"	Arr. Gordon Young

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"Glory Be To God" John Mitchell Tree

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 100 The Rev. Dr. Philip W. Butin

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

*HYMN OF PRAISE "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

I.
*Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of Love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee,
Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.*

III.
*Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of loving,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the Joy divine.*

II.
*All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,
Call us to rejoice in Thee.*

IV.
*Mortals, join the happy chorus
Which the morning start began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward
In the triumph song of life. Amen*

WORDS OF WELCOME Mrs. Edward H. McFarland, Jr.

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING The Rev. Thomas T. Traynham

*For those whose faith, courage, and Christian conviction and whose diligent effort and financial sacrifice resulted in the building of this house of worship:
We thank you, O God.*

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A cordial WELCOME is extended to all who are worshipping with us today, particularly to former members of this church and their families, and to friends in the community. Your presence gives us joy!

We especially appreciate the leadership of Dr. James M. McChesney, Jr. (Goldsboro, N.C.), the Rev. Thomas T. Traynham (Crewe, Va.), and the Rev. Norman M. MacDowell, Pastor Emeritus (Oxford, N.C.), former pastors, in our worship service today.

It is with pleasure that we welcome to our pulpit this morning our GUEST SPEAKER, Mr. Price H. Gwynn, III, former Moderator of the 202nd General Assembly Presbyterian Church, (USA) and a member of the historic old Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, Charlotte, N.C. Retired from a successful corporate career, he has put much of his time and energy into being a catalyst for unity in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Mr. Gwynn is an ordained elder whose father and grandfather were Presbyterian ministers.

A SPECIAL THANKS is extended to our guests, the Peace College Inner Choir of Raleigh, N.C., for their special music at this celebration. They are under the direction of Mr. James Smith.

TO THE GLORY OF GOD and the COMMUNION OF THE SAINTS: The flowers in the sanctuary remind us of the beauty and life of those now departed but whose love and good deeds linger with us.

They are given in loving memory of Elvyn Leroy Parham, and Ethel Clement Parham. Mr. Parham served as a Ruling Elder and Mrs. Parham was one of our historians and served as President of the Women's Auxiliary in 1932-34.

ALL IN ATTENDANCE at this service are invited to dinner at 12:15 at the Oxford Woman's Club across the street.

As part of our 175th Anniversary Celebration, members of the church compiled a COOKBOOK which will be on sale following the worship service. Mrs. Ralph Boswood will make them available in the Assembly Room. They sell for \$8.00. All profits go to the Bicentennial Fund of the Presbyterian Church (USA) to support an Appalachian housing ministry which will include residents of North Carolina.

Special CHRISTMAS CARDS of the sanctuary have been printed and will be on sale for \$6.00 in the Assembly Room.

You are invited into the HISTORICAL ROOM to enjoy and view the exhibit of pictures of former ministers, the 1824 Session Book, the early Communion Service, and numerous other items of historical and sentimental value to our church.

There will be a display of HYMNALS used in the Presbyterian Church from 1843-present in the sanctuary on the piano after the service.

1818

175TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1993

Sunday, September 26, 1993

**HISTORY
OF THE
OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Gilliam Street
Oxford, North Carolina**

Presbyterianism in Granville County dates back to pre-Revolutionary years. About the year 1754 several Presbyterian families from the congregation of the Rev. Samuel Davies in Hanover County, Virginia settled along Grassy Creek in northern Granville. It was through his influence that the Revs. Hugh McAden, Gilbert and William Tennent, outstanding ministers in the movement of the Great Awakening in America, visited and preached in the settlements of Granville. In 1755, Grassy Creek Presbyterian Church was organized by the Rev. Gilbert Tennent on the farm of Howell Lewis near Gela. It is believed that it was in this home that the first communion was observed.

In 1811 the town of Oxford was incorporated, as was Oxford Academy which opened its doors in 1814. From 1812 to 1817 there were occasional sermons from ministers of different societies. In 1817 several members, Thomas B. Littlejohn and others, of the Grassy Creek Church who lived in Oxford, approximately ten miles distant, resolved to organize a church in Oxford. In September, 1818 Oxford Presbyterian Church was organized with nine members, two of whom, Thomas B. Littlejohn and Levi H. McLean, were ordained elders. For about twelve years most of the services were held in the Academy. However, on June 18, 1823 "a consultation was held at the Court House on the plan and size of a Presbyterian Church in this place." The congregation at this time numbered around twenty-two. "By Autumn of 1825 bricks for the Oxford Presbyterian Church were ready for burning." The church, made of brick and erected on the site of the present sanctuary, was completed in 1830 during the pastorate of the Rev. Nehemiah H. Harding, D.D.

In 1892, during the pastorate of Dr. Joseph Rennie, the present church building (main body) replaced the first structure. In 1941, during the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. James H. McGhesney, Jr., the Sunday School was added. In 1958, redecoration and renovation of the entire plant were begun and completed in 1959. In 1965, a new Casavant Mechanical-Action Organ was purchased for the sanctuary. In 1989, central heating and air conditioning were installed.

On September 22, 1968, the congregation celebrated its Sesquicentennial. Among the worship leaders was a beloved pastor, the Rev. Stuart R. Oglesby, ordained here in 1918 and later Moderator of the General Assembly.

This Sunday, September 26, 1993 we celebrate our 175th Anniversary with Mr. Price H. Gwynn, III, Moderator of the 292nd (1989) General Assembly of Presbyterian Church, (USA) and member of Steele Creek Presbyterian Church Charlotte, as our guest speaker. Mr. Gwynn is an ordained elder whose father and grandfather were Presbyterian ministers. The Peace Concert Inner Choir, Raleigh, North Carolina joins us in this celebration. "We cannot but think that the smile of heaven have in an especial manner rested on this church and we wish with heartfelt gratitude to record it "That hither to hath the Lord, helped us." May the richest blessings of heaven continue to descend upon it" (Thomas B. Littlejohn, 1824). As a congregation, we await God's faithfulness in the years to come.

OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1818 - 1993

**Since its organization, this church has been served
by the following ministers as pastor
and/or supply**

Shepard K. Kollock, D.D., S	1818-1819
Prof. Samuel L. Graham, D.D., S	1820-1822
James W. Douglass, S	1823-1824
Joseph Labaree, P	1824-1829
Nehemiah H. Harding, D.D., P	1830-1835
Jesse Rankin, P	1835-1837
S.J.P. Anderson, S	1839-1840
Jonathan T. Ely, S	1840-1841
Edward Hines, S	1841-1842
Jacob Doll, P	1842-1847
Thomas U. Faucette, P	1850-1867
H.G. Hill, P	1867-1870
Donald E. Jordan, P	1870-1880
James W. Primrose, P	1880-1885
R.B. Willis, P	1885-1888
John C. Dinwiddie, S	1888-1889
Joseph Rennie, D.D., P	1889-1892
J. Ernest Thacker, D.D., P	1893-1896
A.S. Caldwell, P	1896-1900
Francis M. Allen, S	1900-1901
John E. Wool, P	1901-1905
C.S. Christian, P	1905-1908
G.B. Thompson, P	1908-1911
S.K. Phillips, P	1912-1917
Stuart R. Oglesby, D.D., P	1918-1922
Francis F. Comerford, P	1922-1925
Thomas H. Dimmock, P	1925-1928
James W. Lacy, P	1929-1939
James M. McChesney, Jr., D.D., P	1940-1944
Benjamin F. Moore, Jr., P	1944-1949
Norris L. Fellows, P	1949-1951
Marlin B. Curry, P	1952-1953
James L. Price, Jr., Ph.D., D.D., S	1953-1954
Thomas T. Traynham, P	1954-1970
Norman M. MacDowell, P	1971-1986
Janet B. Butin, Co-P	1987-1993
Philip W. Butin, Co-P, Ph.D.	1987-1993

THE CHURCH DIRECTORY OF THE OXFORD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dr. Philip W. and Rev. Janet B. Butin, Co-Pastors
Miriam MacDowell, Organist/Choir Director
Joyce Doughty, Secretary
Julius Fields, Sexton
Allen Kozak, Disbursing Treasurer
Lene Cash and Frances Tarry, Receiving Treasurers

THE SESSION

Class of 1993	Class of 1994	Class of 1995
Walter Gould	James Ingram	Scott Goodwin
Doris McFarland	Grace Lanier	Al Kozak
Betsy Sanders	Jane Snipes	Delores Moss
	Arial Stephens, Clerk	

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Ellen Gould, Moderator
Retta Currin, Vice-Moderator
Cynthia Twisdale, Secretary
Lynn Currin, Treasurer
Cynthia Twisdale, Historian
Gracie Lanier, Morning Circle
Retta Currin, Evening Circle

175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Doris P. McFarland, Chairperson
Miss Hazel Currin, Worship
Mrs. Peyton Tarry, Invitations
Mr. John Beach, Publicity
Mrs. Ellie Bradsher, Fellowship
Mrs. Carol Barnes, Flowers
Mr. John Newell, Property

ADULT CHOIR

Dottie Beach
John Dunning
Tonya Dunning
Ellen Gould
Walter Gould
Marie Hobgood
Gracie Lanier
Norman MacDowell
David Snipes
Jane Snipes
Cathy Yancey

YOUTH CHOIR

Keri Barnes
Catherine Cash
Julia Colgrove
Klesa Colgrove
Trey Goodwin
Andy Gould
Emily Gould
Heather Hightower
Randall Hightower
Benjamin Hobgood
Richard Hobgood
Robert Hobgood
Terry Hobgood, Jr.
Rachel Lanier
Tracy Moss
Julie Oakley
Amber Snipes
Leslie Snipes
Patrick Steger

*For those who labored with mind and hand to design and construct this sanctuary that Christian people might worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;
We thank you, O God.*

*For all those servants of God who have led your people in worship here, who have preached your word from this pulpit, and who have administered the sacraments to waiting and believing hearts:
We thank you, O God.*

*For those who have brought their children here for Christian baptism, for those who have pledged their love to one another at this holy altar, and for those who in Christian faith and trust have here parted with loved ones and committed them to your love and care:
We thank you, O God.*

*For all those who have here confessed their faith in Jesus Christ, have shared in the life and witness of the church, and committed themselves to the Christian life:
We thank you, O God.*

*For sins that have been confessed and forgiven here, for burdens that have been made easier to carry, for distressed and troubled hearts that have known the peace that passes all understanding, and for lives that have been inspired to new heights of love and of service:
We thank you, O God.*

For all your goodness and love revealed to us in this house of worship, we praise you and we thank you, O God. Amen.

(by Ernest O. Geigis, from The Wideness of God's Mercy, The Seabury Press, copied by permission)

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Threefold Amen” Anonymous

READING OF THE WORD The Rev. Dr. James M. McChesney, Jr.
Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:11-32

CHORAL ANTHEM

“Exalt You Now, Raise to The Sky” Johann Schein

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Message: “With Open Arms” Mr. Price H. Gwynn, III

CONFESION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed The Rev. Norman M. MacDowell

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Christ, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING

Anthem: “Antiphonal Praise” Dale Peterson

Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRESENTATION OF ANNIVERSARY CERTIFICATE Mr. Price H. Gwynn, III

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Rev. Janet B. Butin

THE LORD'S PRAYER

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** "The Church's One Foundation"

I.

*The Church's one Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation, by water and the word;
From heaven He came and sought her, To be His holy Bride;
With His own Blood He bought her; and for her life he died.*

II.

*Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth!
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.*

III.

*'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation, Of peace forevermore;
'Til with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious, Shall be the church at rest.*

IV.

*Yet she on earth hath union, With God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion, With Those whose rest is won;
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we;
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee. Amen.*

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION** The Rev. Dr. Philip W. Butin

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

"Seek Ye First The Kingdom of God" Karen Lafferty

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare" Albert Zabel

***Congregation Standing**

GREETERS: Mrs. Ralph Boswood, Miss Hazel Currin, Mrs. Doug Currin, Mrs. Reuben Faucette, Mrs. Cleva Blythe Hester

USHERS: Mr. James Ingram, Mr. Allen Kozak, Mr. John Lanier, Mr. Arial Stephens, Mr. Dudley Barnes, Mr. Forest Oakley.

HISTORIES: Mrs. Forest Oakley, Mrs. Channie Currin.

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